



SALVATION PARENT CONVERSATION GUIDE

This is an exciting time in a kid's life! They're starting to ask questions about their faith. They're wondering about God and His love for them. They may be asking a lot of questions about Jesus - questions that you may struggle with yourself, or questions that may not have a simple answer. But that's okay. This is a starting point for your kid to begin a life-long conversation about faith.

As opportunities for these conversations arise, North Way Kids offers you this resource to assist with key thoughts and scriptures. A great place to start is with John 3:16. It lays the foundation for God's love for us that sent Jesus to be our Savior. We have also included other scriptures to use that may be helpful in your discussions.

"For God so **LOVED** the world that he **GAVE** his one and only Son. Anyone who **BELIEVES** in him will not die but will have eternal life" (John 3:16 NIV).

WHAT TO SAY

1. GOD LOVED

- God loved you before you were even born. He created you in His image. And He loves you right now. (Jeremiah 31:3)
- But there is something that separates us from Him forever. It's called sin. It's the stuff we do wrong. Sin keeps us from living the story that God wants for us. (Romans 3:23)
- And on our own, we can't do anything about this. We need God to step in and help. But because God loved us, He made a way for all of us to live with Him forever.

- ASK:**
1. What is sin?
 2. Have you ever sinned? When?
 3. What is the problem with sin?

2. GOD GAVE

- God gave the most important, valuable, and perfect thing He had for you. He knew that our sin would keep us from living with Him forever.
- We're apart from God and would stay that way. But because God loved us, He gave His Son to fix that relationship. Jesus came to make a way for you to be in God's story. (Romans 5:8)
- And Jesus gave up His life on the cross to pay for our sin. Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead! His resurrection defeated death and makes a relationship with God possible again. (Romans 6:23)

- ASK:**
1. What did God give us?
 2. Why did God give this gift?
 3. What did Jesus do for us?

3. WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS

- When you receive a gift what do you do? You open it. God said you could open His gift by believing.
- Believing simply means to trust. It's a lot like sitting in a chair. When you sit in a chair, you put all your weight in it. You trust that it will hold you up. That's what it's like to believe in or to trust in this gift.
- To open the gift that God gave you, you trust Jesus with your whole life and rest in the fact that He died and rose again for you. (Romans 10:9)

- ASK:**
1. How can you take part in God's Big Story?
 2. What does it mean to trust in something?
 3. How do you know God loves you?

PRAYER

You can use the following prayer with your child as you lead them to trust Jesus.

Dear Heavenly Father,

I know I am a sinner. I know my sin should separate me from You forever. I believe Your Son, Jesus, died for my sins. I accept Your forgiveness for my sin. Thank You for loving me and for giving the gift of Jesus so I could live with You in heaven. Come into my life and be my Savior, Lord, and Friend.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

ENCOURAGEMENT

- Realize that if you talk about "inviting Jesus into your heart" this might be confusing. Kids are such concrete thinkers that it can worry them to think that someone is living inside their actual heart. Periodically stop to make sure they're understanding so you'll know if you need to rephrase.
- When praying, kids are going to express their faith with how they understand it at their age. Don't get hung up on the "right words" but rather the heart with which they pray.
- Remember that you don't have to have every answer. "I don't know, but I can try to find out" is a legitimate answer to questions your kid has about faith. There's so much that we don't understand about how God works and how the Holy Spirit enters our life. And that's okay.